

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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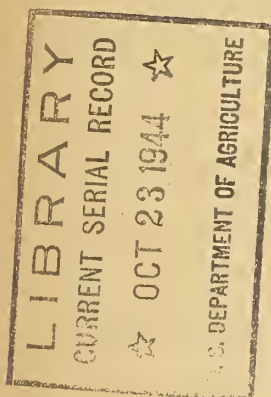


LIMITATIONS ON PURCHASES OF AUTOMOBILES AND TYPEWRITERS

I. GENERAL:

- A. The following provision appears in the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1945:

"Sec. 202. Unless otherwise specifically provided, no appropriation available for the executive departments and independent establishments for the fiscal year 1945 in this Act or any other Act, shall be expended--



- (a) To purchase any motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicle (exclusive of buses, ambulances, and station wagons), at a cost, completely equipped for operation, and including the value of any vehicle exchanged, in excess of such amount as the Secretary of War, in the case of the War Department, the Secretary of the Navy, in the case of the Navy Department, The Commissioners, in the case of the Government of the District of Columbia, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, in the case of other essential Governmental needs, may determine necessary to obtain satisfactory motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicles, but in no event shall the price so paid for any such vehicle exceed the maximum price therefor established by the Office of Price Administration and in no event more than \$1,500, which amount shall be in addition to the amount required for transportation."

- B. In connection with the above, attention is directed to the Comptroller General's Decision B-43366 dated August 9, 1944 for clarification of the limitation of \$1,500, and to the provision appearing in the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act, 1945:

"Sec. 5. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law the lump-sum appropriations herein made for the Department shall be available for the purchase of motor-propelled and horse-drawn passenger-carrying vehicles necessary in the conduct of the field work of the Department outside the District of Columbia: Provided that such vehicles shall be used only for official service outside the District of Columbia, but shall not prevent the continued use for official service of motor trucks in the District of Columbia: Provided further, that appropriations contained in this Act shall be available for the maintenance, operation, and repair of motor-propelled and horse-drawn passenger-carrying vehicles:"

I. (Cont.)

- C. The following provision appears in the Treasury and Post Office Departments Appropriation Act, 1945:

"No part of any money appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used during the fiscal year 1945 for the purchase, within the continental limits of the United States, of any standard typewriting machines (except bookkeeping, billing, and electric machines) at a price in excess of the following for models with carriages which will accommodate paper of the following widths to wit: Ten inches (correspondence models), \$70; twelve inches, \$75; fourteen inches, \$77.50; sixteen inches, \$82.50; eighteen inches, \$87.50; twenty inches, \$94; twenty-two inches, \$95; twenty-four inches, \$97.50; twenty-six inches, \$103.50; twenty-eight inches, \$104; thirty inches, \$105; thirty-two inches, \$107.50; or, for standard typewriting machines distinctively quiet in operation, the maximum prices shall be as follows for models with carriages which will accommodate paper of the following widths, to wit: Ten inches, \$80; twelve inches, \$85; fourteen inches, \$90; eighteen \$95."

- II. EXAMINATION OF OBLIGATION DOCUMENTS AND VOUCHERS: The above-quoted provisions are self-explanatory. This office has not received advice of the fixing of any price limitation by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, in connection with the purchase of motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicles and until such limitation is so fixed the limitation of \$1500 prescribed by law shall be considered as the controlling limitation.

Obligation documents reflecting purchases contradictory to such provisions shall be immediately returned to the procuring officer, who initiated the purchase with citation to the provision violated. Vouchers covering purchases in violation of such provisions shall be returned to the procuring officer, who initiated the purchase for appropriate explanatory statement and, after resubmission, shall be forwarded together with the statement, through the Central Finance Office to the Claims Division, General Accounting Office, for direct settlement.